


Memo

November 22, 2021

To: Monica Stegall, City Planner  
Trin Campos, City Engineer

From: Frank Kennedy, City Administrator

Subject: Valley Ranch Unit 3 – Tentative Subdivision Map 2021-1 CEQA Noise Impact Review, City of Williams, CA.



Based on the attached technical email of September 21, 2021, from Paul Bollard, Acoustical Consultant, regarding the above project, the City finds the impracticality of installing a sound attenuation wall along the Husted Road project frontage for future noise mitigation on future residents of the project. It would be premature for the City to require this on the developer due to the following reasons:

- The City has not completed final improvement plans for Husted Road which is envisioned in the General Plan to be a four lane Minor Arterial.
- There is some uncertainty of what kind of sound attenuation device would best serve this project and other residential development in Williams that is impacted from Husted Road traffic growth.
- Projected population growth in the City will not require noise mitigation for many years to come as contemplated in the General Plan.

I understand that once the City grows to a level that would result in increasing vehicle travel on Husted Road from 3,400 existing ADT to 8,500 ADT, the City will need to address noise impacts and related noise mitigation, not only for this project, but for other existing residential developments in Williams. Through this memo, I am advising the City Engineer of the need to include a sound attenuation system along the west side of Husted Road to mitigate future vehicle noise impacts on residential subdivisions in Williams when traffic rates increase to above 8,500 ADT. This should include road improvement plans for Husted Road that will include this type of noise mitigation system, which might consist of a solid wall, berm, or other design that reduces noise on these residential uses by a minimum of 7 dB, or as recommended by a qualified noise consultant, which meets the City's General Plan Noise Element and State of California noise standards.

Attachment: Email from Paul Bollard, Acoustical Consultant

Email attachment of September 21, 2021 to Gary Price, Planning Consultant from Paul Bollard, Acoustical Consultant:

Good morning Gary,

The increase in noise levels in going from 3,400 existing ADT to 15,500 at buildout computes to 7 dB. Since existing was reported to be 56 dB LDN at 100 feet, which is the setback to the nearest backyard areas to Husted Road, the future LDN at those locations would be 63 dB LDN and a 6 foot tall barrier would be required to achieve compliance with the 60 dB LDN standard.

Other than deferring the mitigation until later (when volumes would hit 8,500 ADT), I'm sorry but I don't have any creative mitigation measures for you. Based on that forecasted future ADT they're going to need the wall.

Paul

**Paul Bollard, President**

**Institute of Noise Control Engineers (INCE), Board Certified Member**

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